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DAILY REVIEW OF THE ARABIC PRESS



State Dept. review completed

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EMBASSY OF THE U.S.A., CAIRO-EGYPT.

THURSDAY Evening July 1st, 1948.
FRIDAY Morning July 2nd, 1948.

THURSDAY Evening July 1st, 1948.

Bernadotte unpopular with the
Arabic press. Censor bans articles
concerning the Count.

Count Bernadotte is the object of criticism by the
Arabic press this evening. An empty space appears in Al
Balagh with the headline: "This is prosecution not media-
tion. Once again look here Count", printed on top. It
appears that the paper was going to publish a strong
article about the Count but the censor ordered the editor
to kill the story.

Al Zaman, the independent evening daily, seems
to enjoy more influence than Al Balagh for it is allowed
to publish the greater part of a strong article about
Bernadotte, with a few blank lines appearing in the article
here and there to indicate the phrases which were blue-
pencilled by the Censor.

Al Zaman's article is headlined "Is his name
Bernadotte or (a blank space)?" The paper then goes on
to say: "No body could have thought that the missionary
of peace who comes from Sweden (a blank) and shed his
clothes of President of the International Red Cross in
favour of (a blank). He then submits a project which
Weizmann could not have excelled in his attempt to realise
the Zionist dream.

(Five blank lines)

"When Count Bernadotte came to the East he
donned the clothes of a saint and pretended to be, like
Caesar's wife, above suspicion. We did not think that
the man of peace had hidden under his garments the weapons
of Mars, and that he did not come here to try to find a
solution for the Palestinian question but to (six blank lines).

THURSDAY Evening July 2nd, 1948.

"Was it really Bernadotte who drafted those proposals or was Bernadotte kidnapped by the Zionists and a double put in his place. We could not believe our eyes when we read the proposals. No man professing neutrality could have drafted such proposals. Is Bernadotte unaware that his project is the same as the one which was supported by Truman and Stalin and caused war in Palestine?

"We do not understand why is the Political Committee meeting. The proposals do not deserve an answer. We did not make the sacrifices we made, to consider such proposals in the end. The only reply which Bernadotte's proposals deserve should be in the shape of fire".

Towfik Abul Huda Pasha comments
on Bernadotte's proposals.

Al Zaman writes: "Towfik Abul Huda Pasha, Prime Minister of Transjordan, told our reporter that he had informed the Political Committee yesterday that Count Bernadotte's mention of Transjordan in his proposals was made with bad intention. Transjordan is an independent state and cannot agree to return to a situation which was in existence before the days of the mandate, said the Pasha who added that Transjordan had no aims in Palestine except to save it on the following two bases:

- 1 - No Jewish State should be established in Palestine.
- 2 - No partition should take place.

"His Excellency also told our reporter that the future of Palestine will be determined by its own people after its liberation. It may want to be independent and become member of the Arab League or prefer to be united to Egypt, Transjordan, or any other Arab State. He concluded his statement to us by saying that Count Bernadotte's proposals were rejected by the League's Political Committee because on the whole they constitute an old Zionist project".

Moslems from various countries
come to Al Azhar for their education.

Al Zaman quotes the controller of missions at Al Azhar as saying to its reporter that the number of Moslems who arrived in Al Azhar from Turkey, Albania, India, Indonesia, China, Japan, Afghanistan, and Ethiopia has greatly increased and that His Majesty has ordered that each one of these Moslems should be given a monthly allowance as well as free board and lodgings.

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FRIDAY July 2nd, 1948.

Press comments on Al Misri's story
concerning Bernadotte's proposals.
(See Review July 1st, page 2).

Al Zaman of last night said that Al Misri's story concerning Bernadotte's proposals was incorrect in one part. The Mediator proposed the establishment of two governments and not two states as reported by Al Misri, said Al Zaman. Al Assas, Nokrashi Pasha's mouthpiece, says: "We disagree with Al Misri about the greater part of alleged proposals. Count Bernadotte's proposals covered five foulscaps and the Count requested that the nature of these proposals should not be made public until he received the Arab reply. As we understand that Count Bernadotte will receive the reply to-morrow (July 3rd) when he reaches Cairo, we prefer not to publish the text of the proposals. We may say, however, that these proposals are in actual fact a form of partition and that they have unanimously been rejected by the Arab League Political Committee."

Transjordan will protest to
Bernadotte.

Al Assas says: "We learned that Towfik Abul Huda Pasha had informed the members of the Political Committee that he intended to submit in the name of the Transjordanian government an official protest to Count Bernadotte against his attempt to link the Palestinian question with independent and sovereign Transjordan. His Excellency held a meeting which was attended by Fawzy Al Molky Pasha and Bahaeeldine Tokan Bey for the purpose of drafting the protest to Count Bernadotte".

Palestine.

Will war be resumed? Al Ahram says yes.

The five dailies published on Fridays, namely Al Ahram, Sawt Al Umma, Al Kutla, Al Assas, and Al Ikhwan Al Muslimoun, report that Count Bernadotte's proposals were examined last night by the Arab League's Political Committee which decided, unanimously, to reject them. Al Ahram says that it took the members of the Committee a few minutes only to reach this decision and that the rest of the time which the meeting occupied was devoted to discussing the possible results of the Arab refusal and the next steps which the Arabs should take.

Under the headline: "The step which will follow the rejection of Bernadotte's proposals", Al Ahram writes:

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FRIDAY July 2nd, 1948.

"Arab public opinion did not have to wait for our review of the Palestine situation to come to the conclusion that fighting will be resumed in Palestine. We believe that the Arabs never doubted for one moment since the arrival of Count Bernadotte to this region that war will be resumed. The dislike of the Arabs for the truce is the result of their firm belief that the Palestinian problem can only be solved inside Palestine itself and that the honour of the Arab nations is linked with such a solution.

When will the fight start.

"We do not know yet when the fight will start and whether it will take place soon or after the truce ends, but it is expected that a decision on this question will be taken not later than Saturday July 3rd when the Political Committee is expected to hold its final meeting which will be attended by the Iraqi Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs. Under the circumstances, we can only say this: War is inevitable. The Arab countries are determined to pursue war until the end. They consider war with Zionism to be a war of life or death and they have made up their minds to win at all costs.

"No doubt the Arab countries have made preparations to put this policy into effect. It is the duty of the Arab people to follow the example of their governments. They should answer the call for general mobilization when it comes, combat espionage, forget their differences, and give generously. Wars these days are not fought by armies so much as by the people. Victory cannot be completed unless the internal front is as strong or even stronger than the external front.

"Our readers will have read on another page that King Abdullah's discussions with the Iraqi Regent was more of a military than political nature".

Arab forces are ready to resume war in Palestine, says King Abdullah in Baghdad.

Under the above headline, which occupies the width of four columns, Al Ahram publishes a story in which it quotes H.M. King Abdullah of Transjordan who is visiting Baghdad at present as saying that the Arab forces are ready to resume war in Palestine.

The same daily publishes another story written by its Jerusalem correspondent which it headlines: "Arab readiness to resume war. Arab armies mass in preparation for attack". The correspondent says that the the Arabs in the Jorusa-

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FRIDAY July 2nd, 1948.

Jerusalem and Haifa regions are preparing feverishly for war which is expected to be resumed immediately truce ends.

Al Sawadi's editor says:

"I am prepared to bet war will be resumed this time next week."

Al Sawadi, the pro-government weekly, publishes an editorial in which its editor-in-Chief says: "This time next week whatever Allah has decreed will happen. There will either be war or a solution will have been reached. Personally I am prepared to bet war will be resumed then. This belief of mine is not mere guesswork but is based on the things we see at present. Al Misri published yesterday what it alleged to be Count Bernadotte's proposals. Our readers will see printed in another column the text of the proposals as reported by our own reporter (the Censor killed the story and a blank space appears where the alleged proposals should have been printed - Ed.). Whether Al Misri's story or ours is the correct one is immaterial. The fact remains that the Count's proposals have been rejected by the Arabs. The natural result, therefore, is the resumption of war. We do not think that there is any Arab who disagrees with us when we say that war will be resumed on July 9th. But the question we may hear is this: What will the attitude of the United Nations be? The United Nations may adopt one of two possible attitudes. They may decide to let the Jews and Arabs settle the issue with the sword, or they may intervene militarily. In the latter case, we are ready to fight the United Nations although we do not believe that it is likely that this will take place. A slight disagreement between Moscow and Belgrade gave rise to jubilation in London and Washington. A simple order issued by the Russian Commander in Berlin made the Americans and British afraid lest war break out. It is therefore obvious that the allies do not want war and that they are unlikely to set fire to the gun-powder in the Middle East. But should the United Nations elect to intervene then we are prepared to die and make them die with us".

Al Ikhwan says: War will be resumed while discussions are taking place.

Al Ikhwan Al Muslimoun quotes a "high Arab source" as saying that "truce will not be prolonged but fighting will be resumed while discussions are going on". The paper asked this "high Arab source" what will the position be if the United Nations decide to take action against the Arabs. The "source's" reply was: "If this takes place, Allah forbid, then it would be more honourable for the Arabs to be defeated by international armies than agree of their own free will to something which does not realise Arab aims".

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FRIDAY July 2nd, 1948.

LE 100,000 to pay salaries of
civil officials in Egyptian-controlled
parts of Palestine.

Al Assas reports that the Ministry of Finance has approved a credit for LE 100,000 to pay the salaries of the civil officials who are working in those parts of Palestine which were liberated by the Egyptian army. The money has been transferred to Ghazza and payment of salaries for the month of June will be made to-day.

Al Sawadi apologizes for rude
article about Embassy ladies.
(See Review June 25th page 5).

Under the headline: "Wives of Military Attachés", Al Sawadi writes: "We published in last week's issue a word about the wives of military attachés in some foreign Embassies and Legations in Egypt and their joining the ladies of the Egyptian Red Crescent to serve the Egyptian forces. We expressed fear lest their contact with the fighting forces would have unsatisfactory results.

"We add to-day that on investigating the matter and after questioning the responsible quarters, all our fears evaporated. It was proved to us that these lady volunteers, the wives of the Military Attachés, are not in contact with the wounded soldiers and officers. All they do is wrap the presents and prepare bandages. What is more important is the fact that most of them belong to the Southern states of the U.S.A. as Texas, Kansas, and Missouri. They are therefore very much different from the inhabitants of New York and Washington where the Jewish dollar has conquered everybody".

What's News in Egypt?

USIS-CAIRO "HEADLINE REPORT"

PRESS SECTION, AMERICAN EMBASSY

"What's News" is prepared to give American readers a quick, at-a-glance, objective poll of Egyptian newspaper interest; to show what Egyptian papers are "playing up" and what they are "playing down." Where possible, it cross-sections the press--right, left and center--concentrating on major and most influential papers. Topics are listed in the order of the importance given them by editors...and thus are listed in the order in which they claim the eyes of Egyptian newspaper readers.

Explanation of the poll system appears on reverse of this page.

Papers of

July 3, '48

"Misri"

"Kotla"

"Sawt el Umma"

"Akhbar el Yom"

Subject:	Points:	Papers using:
<u>ARABIC PRESS</u>		
PALESTINE -- internal situation (Jewish breaches of truce) will cause Arabs to resume fighting at end of truce...Bernadotte in Jerusalem (Akhbar el Yom); U.S. and Britain hope to extend truce... (Misri); Bernadotte does not ask for truce extension (Kotla)...	69	M,K,S,A.
BERLIN -- general situation...	44	M,K,S,A.
BERNADOTTE'S PEACE SUGGESTIONS under study; Bernadotte expected in Cairo to receive final decision; united Arab rejection expected...	37	M,K,S,A.
TITO -- general situation...	34	M,K,S,A.
TRUCE OBSERVERS acknowledge difficulties caused by Jews...	21	M,K.
UNO PLANE -- fired on by Jews...	20	M,A.
KING ABDULLAH IN IRAQ...	18	M,K,S,A.
U.S. FLEET -- cruise in Mediterranean and Persian Gulf...(USIS)	13	K,S.
INDIAN-ABYSSINIAN DIPLOMATIC EXCHANGE...	11	M,K,A.
U.S. ARMED FORCES -- no recruitment of aliens... (USIS)	9	K,S.
DEWEY PROTESTS AGAINST U.S. FOREIGN POLICY...	9	M.
IRAQI-IRANIAN RELATIONS...	8	K,S.
MARSHALL PRESS CONFERENCE...	8	M.
AUSTRIA -- Chancellor Figl contrasts help received from West and difficulties caused by East...	8	K.

HOW THIS REPORT IS PREPARED...

"What's News" does not translate news stories, nor reflect the individual point of view of any fact. By an objective statistical conversion of "headline bigness," "story placement" and "display" into figures, it attempts to show a general picture of how the newspapers of Egypt rate current news.

To give this picture, every story on the major news pages of a representative group of newspapers in each language is given a "point value," based on story display and position.

These point values are reached as follows:

1. A single-column headline is given an arbitrary value of two points. A two-column headline rates four points. A three-column headline earns six -- etc. The basic point value of a story is set at twice the width of its headline.

2. Three points are added to the value of all stories published on "Page One"... and an additional two points are added to each story published in the top third of Page One. Thus an eight-column "banner" headline on Page One rates sixteen points, plus three points, plus two points -- 21 points.

3. After all stories in the newspapers covered are evaluated in this manner, the total score for each item of news (regardless of what phase of the story the individual newspaper "plays up") is added, for the entire cross-sectioned group of newspapers. By choosing papers right, center and left, partisan considerations in giving prominence to news are "balanced out". Thus, if the Wafd gives a story banner headlines and the Administration omits, the score for this story, even though it is bannered in a Wafd paper, will be no more than the score for a story given four-column headlines in both Administration and Opposition newspapers.

4. The identical system is used in evaluating the Arabic and French press, except that the Arabic report, because of the Egyptian custom of bulking international news on Page One, and major local news on Page 2, scans both these pages. The French analysis covers "Page One". The English Press is not evaluated because only a single newspaper appears mornings, another afternoons, and American readers can see immediately the value accorded specific items by the "entire" morning and evening English Press.

5. "Editorial Report" simply lists the subjects of major editorials (as opposed to news items) in the press, by newspapers, for the convenience of those seeking comment on a specific subject.

WHY THIS REPORT IS PREPARED...

USIS has "evaluated" the news in less formal fashion for some time, in order to guide its work. No "Information Service" can operate into a void; it must know what subjects are of most vital interest to the papers it services.

Because it has seemed probable that other Embassy officials and Americans, unable to read the Arabic and French press daily for themselves, would find a "shorthand report" of this sort valuable as a barometer of local press (and thus, to a degree, public) interest, the above means was devised to pass along the daily USIS look at the news.

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Subject:	Points:	Papers using:
ITALY -- general strike...	6	M,A.
SUEZ CANAL SHARES to be bought by Americans...	6	M,S.
DENMARK AND IRELAND sign bilateral agreement with U.S....	6	K.
TRUMAN signs Textile Bill into law, to aid U.S. occupied areas...	5	S.
TRIESTE COMMUNISTS ask Yugoslav leaders to revise their policy...	5	S.
GENEVA TRADE AGREEMENT signed by 22 countries...(USIS)4		S.
GENEVA -- recommended as permanent WHO site...(USIS) 2		S.

FRENCH PRESSJuly 3, 1948 papers: "Progres Egyptien," "Journal d'Egypte"

PALESTINE -- Bernadotte's peace suggestions under study; probable united Arab rejection; Lako Success' hope for truce extension; Bernadotte expected in Cairo today...	47	P,J.
BERLIN -- general situation...Russians affected by blockade...	19	P,J.
MARSHALL PRESS CONFERENCE -- U.S. military aid to Western Union...	18	P,J.
TITO -- State Department denies U.S. proposed "deal" with Tito for approval of Trieste's return to Italy; Yugoslav-British economic talks continue; Tito still backed by own people and attacked by Satellites...	14	P,J.
GREECE -- civil war...	14	P,J.
DENMARK -- U.S.-Danish bilateral agreement...	10	P,J.
TURKEY -- no partial demobilization Turkish military expert says...	10	P.
BERNADOTTE'S SUGGESTIONS...	9	J.
FRANCE -- sailors on strike...	8	P,J.
BERNADOTTE visits Jerusalem Arab headquarters...	8	P.
ITALY -- general strike...	8	P.
INDONESIA -- no new Dutch moves...	7	P,J.

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Subject:	Points:	Papers using:
FORREST SHERMAN'S PRESS CONFERENCE on U.S. naval strength in the Mediterranean...	7	P.
U.S. FLEET -- cruise to Mediterranean and Persian Gulf...	6	P, (USIS) J.
BERLIN BLOCKADE -- Britain to continue supplying Berlin by air...	6	J.
ILO confirms seating of Leon Jouhaux... (USIS)	5	P.
DE GASPERI obtains vote of confidence...	5	P.
TRUMAN signs Textile Bill into law, to aid U.S. occupied areas... (USIS)	5	P.
RUSSIAN-IRANIAN TALKS...	4	P, J.
U.S. plans ten-nation Danube Conference... (USIS)	4	P.
CHINA -- floods...	3	P.
U.S. -- no recruitment of aliens for U.S. armed forces...	2	P.

EDITORIALSFRENCH PRESS

From Belgrade to Berlin -- (a comparison between Stalin's methods and Hitler's)
 -- "Journal d'Egypte".
 The Berlin Crisis -- "Progres Egyptien".

ARABIC PRESS

Rejection -- (a comparison between Bernadotte and Soleiman the Wise) -- "Akhbar el Yom".
 After the Truce and Bernadotte's Suggestions -- (on resuming the fight) -- "Kotla".
 A Conspiracy that Failed -- (Bernadotte's plans) -- "Misri".
 A United Foreign Policy -- (One of the aims of the Arab League) -- "Misri".

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Papers of
July 6, '48

"Ikhwan"

"Misri"

"Ahram"

"Kotla"

"Assas"

"Sawt el Umma"

Subject:

Points:

Papers using:

ARABIC PRESS

BERLIN -- the Three-Power note to Moscow on the Soviet blockade of Berlin discussed in London...	56	I,M,Ah,K,As,S.
ARAB LEAGUE POLITICAL COMMITTEE -- to meet today; expected to reject Bernadotte's suggestions; general activities...	53	I,M,Ah,K,As,S.
PALESTINE QUESTION -- Bernadotte suggests truce extension; also that France, U.S., Belgium send forces to Palestine...	46	I,M,Ah,K,As,S.
TITO QUESTION -- Communist Party in Trieste splits on Tito question; incidents between pro- and anti-Tito; Russians not planning to leave Yugoslavia...	42	I,M,Ah,K,As,S.
SIR STAFFORD CRIPPS opens two-day debate on British agreement with U.S. on Marshall Aid...	24	M,Ah,K,As.
INDONESIA -- disturbances...Dutch use tanks and planes...	20	I,M,K.
GREECE -- civil war...	19	M,K,As.
AMMAN -- American "Jew" arrested on illegal trip...	14	I,M,Ah.
U.S. FORCES in Europe strengthened -- reinforcements sent to Greece and Turkey...	10	M.
U.S. PRESIDENTIAL campaigns...	9	M,Ah.
KING ABDULLAH'S MESSAGE TO AMERICANS...	9	Ah.
U.S.-WEST UNION Security talks...	8	M.
BERLIN PROBLEM discussed by British Cabinet...	8	M.

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BOMBAY DISTURBANCES...	8	I.
U.S. Senator asks to protect Israel, provide arms...	8	Ah.
FINLAND -- Peasant Party wins elections...	6	K.
CZECHOSLOVAKIA to give non-Communists right to leave the country...	5	Ah.
YUGOSLAVIA -- floods...	4	M.

FRENCH PRESSJuly 6, 1948 papers: "Progres Egyptien," "Journal d'Egypte."

PALESTINE QUESTION -- Bernadotte suggests truce extension; to arrive in Cairo tomorrow (P); Jews categorically reject Bernadotte's suggestions (P); Arabs to resume fighting (P)...	50	P,J.
BERLIN -- Sending of Three-Power note to Moscow on the Soviet Blockade discussed in London...	19	P,J.
U.S.-WEST EUROPE SECURITY TALKS...	16	P,J.
TRIESTE -- Communist Party splits on Tito question...	16	P,J.
SIR STAFFORD CRIPPS opens two-day debate on British agreement with U.S. on Marshall Aid; backs Marshall Aid...	14	P,J.
GEORGE BERNANOS DIES...	11	P,J.
KING ABDULLAH'S MESSAGE TO AMERICANS...	11	J.
MOSCOW-BELGRADE SPLIT -- real reasons for...	10	J.
GREECE -- 12 Yugoslav soldiers arrive...	8	P.
GREECE -- civil war...	8	P.
CYRENAICA -- British authorities deny formation of a Senoussi government...	7	P.
BANIAS PIPELINE -- Anglo-Iranian Oil Company and Syrian Government talks to end shortly...	6	P.
BRITAIN -- German socialists visiting Britain declare "Berlin determined to resist Russian control."...	6	P.
U.S. PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN...	5	P.

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Subject:

Points: Papers using:

EDITORIALS

FRENCH PRESS

Palestine Problem -- No Partition. "Progres Egyptien."
Red Army Dictatorship -- "Journal d'Egypte."

ARABIC PRESS

Berlin and Belgrade Crises..."Ahram"
A Mediator who is not Neutral..."Misri"
On Irano-Afghanistan Disagreements..."Misri"
What the Arabs Expect of the Republican Party's Victory..."Ahram"
Our Future is in Our Hands...We Should not Get Cross with Bernadotte..."Kotla"

Approved For Release 2007/03/12 : CIA-RDP83-00415R001100020031-2

25X1

Approved For Release 2007/03/12 : CIA-RDP83-00415R001100020031-2